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**Agenda Item: 2**  
**Meeting Date: September 7, 2005**

## **MEETINGS OF THE BAY-DELTA PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA AUTHORITY**

June 8, 2005  
Holiday Inn  
Sacramento, California

### **Meeting Summary**

Chairman Gary Hunt convened the joint meeting of the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee and California Bay-Delta Authority at 1:04 p.m.

The following Authority members or designees were present for the meeting:

**Public** – Paula Daniels, representing the Southern California Region; Susan Kennedy, representing the San Francisco Bay Region; Alfred Montna, representing the Sacramento Valley Region; Bill Jones, representing the San Joaquin Valley Region; Marc Holmes, member-at-large; and Daniel Wheeler, member-at-large.

#### **Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee Representative – Gary Hunt**

**State** – Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources, and designee Crawford Tuttle; Lester Snow, Director of the Department of Water Resources (DWR); Ryan Broddrick, Director of the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and designee Paul Stein; A.G. Kawamura, Secretary for Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and designee Steve Shaffer; Jim Branham, designee for Alan Lloyd, Secretary for Environmental Protection (CalEPA); and Dave Spath, designee for Sandra Shewry, Director of the Department of Health Services.

**Federal** – Jason Peltier, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI); Kirk Rodgers, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR); Mike Aceituno, designee for Rodney McInnis, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, National Marine Fisheries Services (NOAA Fisheries); Mark Charlton, Sacramento District Deputy District Engineer for Project Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE); Thomas Hagler, designee for Wayne Nastri, Region IX Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection (USEPA); and Dave Harlow, designee for Steve Thompson, Manager of California-Nevada Operations Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

**Ex-Officio** – Designee Dennis O'Connor for Senator Mike Machado for Senator Sheila Kuehl, Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee; Senator Bob Margett, Vice Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, and designee Justin Matheson; Assemblywoman Lois Wolk, Chair of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, and designee Alf Brandt; and Ivan Altamura, designee for Assemblyman Michael Villines, Vice Chair of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

The following Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee (BDPAC) members were present for the BDPAC meeting that started at 9:13 that morning and for the Joint Meeting of the Authority and BDPAC which immediately followed the BDPAC meeting:

Patricia Acosta, Water Replenishment District of Southern California;; Gary Bobker, The Bay Institute; Denny Bungarz, Glenn County; Tom Clark, Kern County Water Agency; Marci Coglianesse, City of Rio Vista; Martha Davis, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Greg Gartrell, Contra Costa Water District; David Guy, Northern California Water Association; Ron Jacobsma, Friant Water Users Authority; Steve Johnson, The Nature Conservancy; Lillian Kawasaki, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power; Leslie Lohse, Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians; Steve Macaulay, California Urban Water Agencies; Don Marciochi, Grassland Water District; Robert Meacher, Plumas County; Barry Nelson, Natural Resources Defense Council; Dan Nelson, San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority; Bill Pauli, California Farm Bureau Federation; Tim Quinn, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Rudolph Rosen, Ducks Unlimited; Michael Schaver, Big Valley Rancheria; Frances Spivy-Weber, Mono Lake Committee; O.L. (Van) Tenney, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District; Walt Wadlow, Santa Clara Valley Water District.

#### **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Chairman Hunt made presented a plaque of appreciation to Director Patrick Wright on behalf of the California Bay-Delta Authority. Secretary Chrisman presented Director Wright with a commendation on behalf of U. S. Senator Dianne Feinstein and expressed his own appreciation and that of the Administration for Director Wright's service.

#### **ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 13 AND 14, 2005 MEETING SUMMARY**

It was moved and seconded by both BDPAC and the Authority to approve the April 13 and 14, 2005, Meeting Summary.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Wright made farewell remarks and welcomed Acting Director Joe Grindstaff.

#### **LEAD SCIENTIST REPORT**

- Lead Scientist Dr. Johnnie Moore said that 142 proposals were submitted in response to the 2004 CALFED Science Program Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). The Selection Panel met in early May to make strategic funding recommendations on those proposals, requesting more than \$142 million in funds. The panel selected and streamlined the budgets of 20 proposals that total

\$16.6 million in requested funds, and public comments on the selections must be received by 3 p.m. on Friday, June 17, 2005. Dr. Moore said the Selection Panel will re-convene June 28 to consider written comments and, if appropriate, revise funding recommendations to be taken before the Authority in August for its approval.

- Dr. Moore also discussed his vision for CALFED Science in the face of changing circumstances. He said limitations in funding and concerns over long-term funding strategies were driving much discussion, but they also include concerns over Program focus and priorities.

Dr. Moore said his vision is reduced in scope and breadth from what is described in the CALFED Finance Plan. This realignment of the Program would: 1) substantially reduce the commitment to directly invest in the scientific information needs of CALFED via the proposal solicitation process; 2) discontinue Program-specific boards in favor of a single independent science board; 3) increase the science oversight and review functions of the Science Program, without any additional means to effect changes within the 10 CALFED Program elements; and 4) reduce the suite of communication products generated through the Science Program.

He said the revamped program would require the expenditure of approximately \$10 million/year (\$1 million for staff and \$9 million for direct costs). The Science Program can meet this budget target for the next three years without any additional funds. Beyond three years, the Science Program needs continual funding of at least \$10 million/year to support it.

### **INDEPENDENT SCIENCE BOARD REPORT**

Chair of the Independent Science Board (ISB), Dr. Thomas Dunne, discussed a report drafted by the ISB Levees Subcommittee entitled, *Report and Recommendations Regarding Levee Integrity in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*.

Dr. Dunne noted that the potential for catastrophic failure of levees in the Delta has been apparent for many years but has received renewed attention due the Jones Tract failure of 2004, which resulted in damages estimated at \$90 million, and recent studies pointing to the continuing nature of subsidence in the Delta. Other recent studies estimate costs associated with widespread levee failure under optimal conditions. Lower bound impacts to agricultural users in the San Joaquin Valley range from \$300 to \$500 million, while costs to urban water districts and their customers will range from \$500 million to \$3 billion, depending on the scenario.

He said the recommendations presented by the ISB Subcommittee aim to focus studies concerned with reducing risks to the full range of CALFED interests in the Delta, ensuring that CALFED Program decisions and policies are informed by the most current scientific understanding of the issues involved.

## **PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND FINANCING**

BDPAC and Authority members discussed the directions contained in the Governor's May budget revision for an independent review of the CALFED Program; a refocusing of the efforts of the Authority and the other CALFED State agencies on solving conflicts associated with Delta water supply, water quality, levee stability, and the environment; and developing a 10-Year Action Plan for the Program to be developed with stakeholders and the Federal agencies.

Director Grindstaff indicated that negotiations were underway to hire a widely recognized contractor to conduct the Independent Review, and that the Governor would likely ask the Little Hoover Commission to review and make recommendations about the CALFED and Authority governance structure.

BDPAC and Authority members also discussed recent cuts in the proposed budgets of the State CALFED agencies, especially DWR and DFG.

Assembly and Authority member Lois Wolk said the reductions were intended to send a message to the agencies and stakeholders about the need to put the CALFED Program on a solid financial foundation and determine priorities. Dennis O'Connor, designee for Senator Michael Machado, noted that the reductions mostly were for programs and projects funded by bonds and that although this might cause delays in Program implementation, the money could be spent in later years.

Several BDPAC and Authority members raised concerns that the budget reductions and the replacement of Director Wright were handled outside the CALFED process. They also discussed the need to develop a vision for the Delta so that scientists, as well as ecosystem and water managers, can ask the right questions and make the right decisions.

## **Adjournment**

Chairman Hunt adjourned the BDPAC and Joint meeting of the Authority and BDPAC at 3:25 p.m.